(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Enforcement Directorate on the subject?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) and (b) The Enforcement Directorate has received from Delhi Police the transcripts of conversations recorded on tapes among the persons connected in match fixing. On the basis of the material received from the Delhi Poice, the Directorate has initiated investigations under the provisions of Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1973.

(c) The investigation is at an initial stage and the Directorate has caused two arrests in this connection.

Bench of Gujarat High Court at Vadodara

†4672. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal for setting up of a bench of Gujarat High Court at Vadodara is pending with Government;

(b) whether a detailed memorandum to this effect was sent by the Vadodara Bar Association to Government last year;

(c) if so, whether any study of this memorandum has been made and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether Government have made any consultation with the Chief Justice of Gujarat High Court and if so, the progress made in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI): (a) to (d) Representations have been received from the Bar Associations etc. from time to time, for establishment of Benches of the Gujarat High Court at Rajkot, Surat, Vadodara, Kutch and Bhavnagar. However, no proposal has been received from the Government of Gujarat, in consultation with the Chief Justice of

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

the Gujarat High Court in this regard. Necessary action in the matter is taken by the Central Government only on receipt of such a proposal.

Filing of Annual Accounts by companies

4673. SHRI S. AGNIRAJ: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that more than one lac companies have not filed their Annual Accounts for more than 2 years; and

(b) if so, what penal action under the law is being taken for default in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Under section 220 of the Companies Act, 1956 the Registrars of Companies are competent to launch prosecutions against the defaulting companies. Registrars of Companies have launched 16956 prosecutions under this section.

Pending Contempt of Court cases

†4674. SHRI SWARAJ KAUSHAL: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Contempt of Court cases pending at present in the country;

(b) whether there is any proposal to review the Contempt of Courts Act;

(c) if so, whether any proposal to make the provisions of Contempt of Courts Act more stringent is under Government's consideration; and

(d) if so; the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI): (a) As per available information, 55, 737 Contempt of Court cases are pending in various High Courts of the country as in December, 1999.

---

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.